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September 10, 2004

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

**EVANSVILLE MAN CHARGED WITH TAKING EMPLOYEE
TAX WITHHOLDINGS**

PRESS RELEASE

Susan W. Brooks, United States Attorney for the Southern District of Indiana, announced that MICHAEL G. TITZER, 52, of Evansville, was charged yesterday with Tax Evasion and Bank Fraud following an investigation by the United States Secret Service and the Internal Revenue Service.

The information charges that TITZER diverted the payroll tax withholdings of an Evansville business while acting as an accountant for the business. TITZER is alleged to have received approximately \$370,000 in employment tax withholding funds from the business that he used for his personal benefit. The information also alleges that TITZER altered a check

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from the business and cashed it.

TITZER was sentenced to federal prison in April of 2003 in an unrelated case for filing false tax returns by U.S. District Court Judge Richard L. Young. On June 23, 2004, TITZER was charged with conspiracy to escape based on his alleged departure from Marion Federal Prison Camp while serving the sentence imposed by Judge Young for the April 2003 filing false tax return conviction.

According to Assistant United States Attorney Todd S. Shellenbarger, who is prosecuting the case for the government, TITZER faces a maximum possible prison sentence of 30 years and a maximum possible fine of \$1,000,000. An initial hearing will be scheduled before a U.S. Magistrate Judge in Evansville.

The information is an allegation only, and the defendant is presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty at trial or by guilty plea.

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